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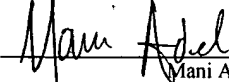
Docket No.: SPLX.P017

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Mani Adeli

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:

Steven Teig, et al.

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: Herewith

For: **Method and Apparatus for Quantifying  
the Quality of Placement Configurations  
in a Partitioned Region of an Integrated-  
Circuit Layout**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Box PATENT APPLICATION

Assistant Commissioner of

Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is concurrently filed with the above-entitled application, which is a continuation application of a presently pending application entitled "Recursive Partitioning Placement Method and Apparatus," filed on December 6, 2000.

**Applicants respectfully request that claims 1-27 be canceled (pursuant to the amendment below) before calculation of the filing fee.**

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